

**City Council of the City of New Castle**  
**Regular Council Meeting at Town Hall – 201 Delaware Street – New Castle**  
**Tuesday – November 12, 2013 – 7 p.m.**

**Call to order: 7:00 pm**

**Roll Call:**

Councilperson Megginson  
Councilperson Cochran  
Council President Barthel  
Councilperson Petty  
Councilperson Vannucci

**Also present:**

Jeff Bergstrom, Building Official & Fire Marshall  
Janet Carlin, City Treasurer  
Daniel Losco, City Solicitor  
Lt. Abrams, Department of Public Safety

**Approval of Minutes by Date:** Regular Meetings 9/5 & 10/8; Special Meeting 10/24; Public Hearing 10/24; Special Meeting 10/30

Councilperson Cochran motioned and Councilperson Petty seconded approval of the minutes without changes. The motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Carlin reported on the balances of the city's accounts as of October 31, 2013. The total cash on hand in all accounts is \$3,622,934.55.

Councilperson Petty motioned to accept the report and Councilperson Cochran seconded. The council unanimously accepted the report.

**Approval of Staff Reports**

Mr. Bergstrom had nothing to add to his report.

Lt. Brahms added to his report stating that an organization, Advanced White Society is passing out literature throughout the city. They are not making threats and seem to be within their rights.

The council unanimously accepted the staff reports.

**Grant Review**

Councilperson Cochran reviewed the grant receipts for October 2013.

**Communications**

None

**Business from the Floor**

None

**Business from the Mayor**

Mayor was unable to attend this meeting.

## **Council President's Report**

President Barthel provided an update on dike repairs and construction from the Conservation District:

Buttonwood Dike – Merit Construction Engineers is the contractor. Work started on October 21 and will take 90 days. Project is on schedule.

Broad Marsh Dike – Merit Construction Engineers is the winning bidder. Work will begin after the Army Corps of Engineers issues a permit.

Gambacorta Dike – Casey Construction is the contractor. Work started on October 23 and is expected to take 125 days. Project is on schedule

Army Creek – Casey Construction is the contractor. Work started on October 23 and is expected to take 125 days. Project is on schedule

Council President Barthel announced that he will resign his position as President of City Council at a special meeting on Friday, November 15th and will take the position of City Administrator. A new Council President will be appointed on Friday by City Council to complete his current term. Current members of City Council are not eligible to become President. Each council president may nominate a replacement.

**Motion, Discussion and on Vote Resolution No. 2013-42**, recognizing Former Police Chief **Kevin P. McDerby** for 13 Years of Service in the New Castle Police Department.

The Motion to approve Resolution No. 2013-42 was made by Councilperson Petty and seconded by Councilperson Megginson.

President Barthel read the resolution.

Councilperson Petty thanked Chief McDerby for his service.

Resolution No. 2013-42 passed unanimously.

Mr. McDerby talked about how important the police, the council, and the Trustees working together are to the safety of the city along with the cooperation of the residents.

**Motion, Discussion and on Vote Resolution No. 2013-44**, recognizing **Lt. Adam Brams** for 25 Years of Service in the City of New Castle Police Department.

The Motion to approve Resolution No. 2013-44 was made by Councilperson Petty and seconded by Councilperson Vannucci.

President Barthel read the resolution.

Resolution No. 2013-44 passed unanimously.

Lt. Brahms thanked Chief McDerby and the City Council. He has enjoyed his time on the force.

**DelDOT Update on the Washington Street road construction project.**

Bud Freel from DelDOT Public Relations introduced Chris Castello, manager of the northern district and Ed Fisher, the project manager.

Chris Castello reported that progress is slowed because of unknown things found buried in the ground and contaminated soil that needs to be properly removed. Utilities are currently holding up the project due to movement of a gas pipe and a pole.

John Gaworski asked about patching to create a more even surface. Chris Castello confirmed that paving is expected over the next week to close up the project for the winter. They are hoping to get the old gas lines cut-off and the project restarted within the next 5 days. Drainage for South Street has to be moved to the other side and is being redesigned.

Earl Carpenter, Councilperson Cochran, and Councilperson Vannucci reported the trucks turning left from Route 9 north to Washington Street must go onto sidewalk. The contractors will review the design and construction.

Bud Freel can be contacted with any questions or concerns about the project at 800-652-5600.

### **Unfinished Business**

1. **Second Reading and Motion, Discussion and Vote on Ordinance No. 492** to amend Chapter 64, Section 64-1 relating to the disposal of surplus real property.

President Barthel read the ordinance.

The Motion to approve Ordinance No. 492 was made by Councilperson Megginson and seconded by Councilperson Petty.

The ordinance has been amended since the previous reading to have the properties appraised prior to being offered to the Trustees and the Municipal Services Commission.

Ordinance No. 492 passed unanimously.

### **New Business**

1. **Reading of City of New Castle Arbor Day Proclamation**

President Barthel read the proclamation declaring November 12<sup>th</sup> as Arbor Day in New Castle.

2. **Motion, Discussion and Vote on Resolution 2013-47** to approve filling a union vacancy in the Administration department.

The Motion to approve Resolution No. 2013-47 was made by Councilperson Cochran and seconded by Councilperson Megginson.

President Barthel read the resolution.

Resolution No. 2013-47 passed unanimously.

### **Comments from the floor.**

No comments.

**The motion to adjourn** was made by Councilperson Petty, seconded by Councilperson Megginson and passed unanimously. Council adjourned at 7:41 pm

Council met in Executive Session to discuss a Personnel Matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet E. Wurtzel

Clerk of the City of New Castle